

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 12, line 6, and ending on page 13, line 4 with the following paragraph:

An example method of slant edge detection is provided in co-pending patent application, entitled: “Method and Apparatus for Detecting the Location and Luminance Transition Range of Slant Image Edges,” ~~pending patent application~~ by Xianglin Wang and Yeong-Taeg Kim, attorney Docket SAM2.0027, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/697,361, now U.S. Patent No. 7,263,229, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Referring to the example diagram in FIG. 4A, detection of slant image edges is conducted in a rectangular window 400 of pixels 410 centered with a current pixel 420. Further, FIG. 4B shows example values 430 for the pixels 410 in the window 400 of FIG. 4A. The mean value of a plurality of the pixels 410 inside the rectangular window 400 is calculated. Then, the value of each pixel inside the window 400 is compared with the mean value. Only the comparison results are used in the succeeding detection process. To facilitate the processing, such comparison result can be saved as a binary pattern data 450 such as shown in FIG. 4C for each pixel in the window 400. For example, if a pixel 410 in the rectangular window 400 has a value (e.g., luminance) that is not smaller than the mean value, the corresponding binary pattern data for that pixel can be assigned a value of 1. Otherwise, the corresponding binary pattern data for that pixel is assigned a value of 0 (e.g., FIG. 4B and 4C).